

Platen and other German poets have referred to the custom and pleaded for its reintroduction. Goethe styled the custom "the wisdom of the ancients." Platen wrote a pleasant epigram on the subject, in which he begged, "O sacred law! return, return, and in future death will be paid from its dreaded penitential breath."

**A RING LAWYER'S FEES.**

**Old Claim Revived.**

Comptroller Green yesterday received a claim from John H. Starn, Jr., assigned to him by McClellan, attorney of the Board of Excise from 1887 to 1891, who demands payment of the large sum \$453,590, with interest, for services alleged to have been rendered in suits prosecuted for violation of the Excise laws. This immense claim is said to have been unarrested, in consequence of the Consolidation act, from the recesses of the office of the Board of Supervisors, where the claimant hoped, on the reorganization, to secure a favorable action; but it is now likely to be resisted at every step in its progress through the courts. It is specimen of probably many claims which remain to be brought into the light.